



Trinity River Mainstem Redd Survey Update 09/18/2015

The [Arcata Fish and Wildlife Office](#) along with the [California Department of Fish and Wildlife](#), [Yurok Tribal Fisheries Program](#), [Hoopa Valley Tribal Fisheries Department](#), and [Shasta-Trinity National Forest](#) survey the mainstem Trinity River to recover salmonid carcasses and count and map Chinook Salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) redds. The distribution of Chinook Salmon spawning is expected to change in response to rehabilitation efforts of the [Trinity River Restoration Program](#) and to the relative run size of natural vs. [Trinity River Hatchery](#) origin fish. Spawning surveys are attempted weekly between [Lewiston Dam](#) and the North Fork Trinity River (reaches 1 through 7) and every other week on the survey reaches downstream of the North Fork Trinity River (Figure 1, Table 1).

This update provides preliminary data on 2015 redd observations encountered and entered into our database as of 09/18/2015 (Table 1). Figure 2 compares preliminary 2015 cumulative redd counts for Reaches 1-10 with the previous 12 years (2002-2014). Redds constructed by Chinook and Coho salmon are not differentiated. After the end of the season, redds are apportioned by association with hatchery or natural origin Chinook Salmon using carcass data.

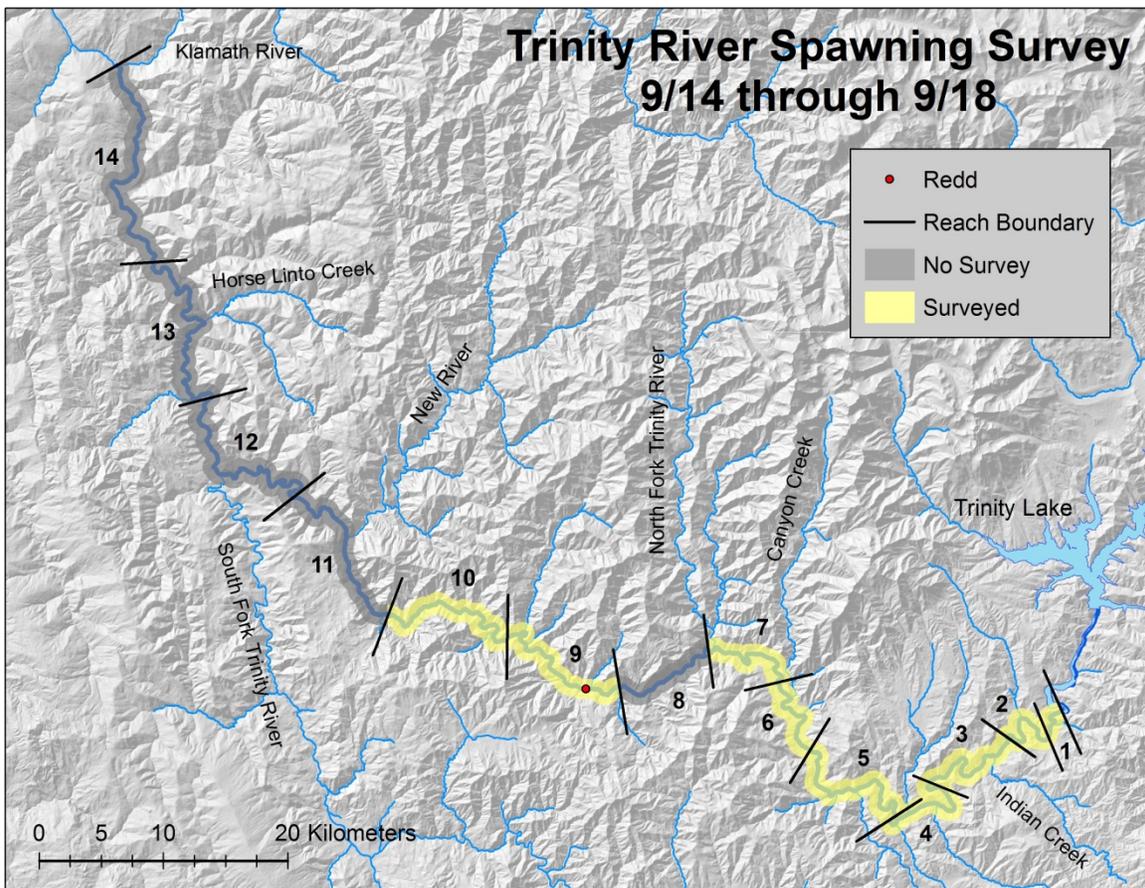


Figure 1. Mainstem Trinity River salmon spawn survey area for this week's update.





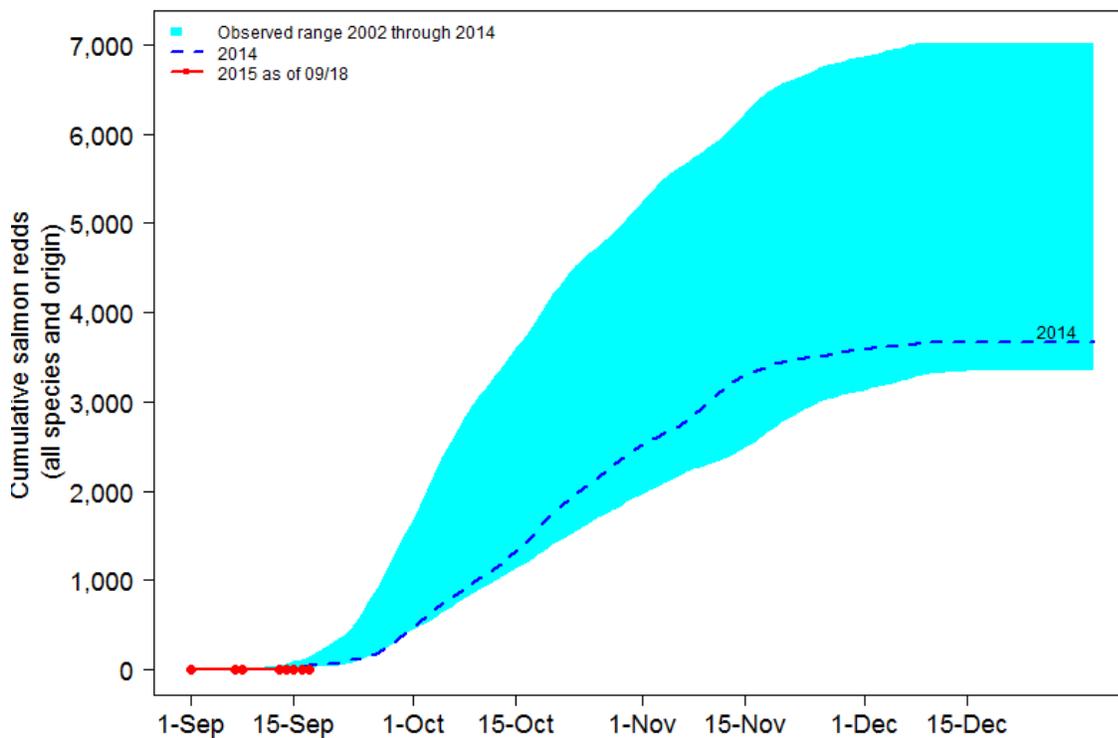
Table 1. Preliminary count of redds by reach for the fall 2015 mainstem Trinity River redd survey. Reach 8 (Pigeon Point Run) and Reach 11 (Burnt Ranch Gorge) are not surveyed due to abundant whitewater.

Week start	Reach														Total	
	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14		
08/31	0															0
09/07	0	0	0	NS	NS	0	0									0
09/14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		1	0						1
09/21																0
09/28																0
10/05																0
10/12																0
10/19																0
10/26																0
11/02																0
11/09																0
11/16																0
11/23																0
11/30																0
12/07																0
12/14																0
Total	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1							

These data are preliminary and subject to revision.

“NS” = no survey

* = partial count due to technical difficulties



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Figure 2. Fall 2015 cumulative Trinity River mainstem redd counts, Reaches 1 to 10 (Reach 8 excluded), as of 09/18/2015 compared 2014 (dashed line) and the range of counts from 2002-2014 (blue polygon).

To access the latest version of this report on-line, see <http://www.fws.gov/arcata/fisheries/projectUpdates.html> and click on “Trinity River Redd survey update”

The fish parasite *Ichthyophthirius multifiliis* (Ich) has been recently detected in Chinook Salmon sampled in the lower Klamath River ([KFHAT](#)). To decrease the chances of large scale Ich outbreak within Klamath and Trinity River salmon, Trinity River flow releases from Lewiston Dam were increased to as high as 3,300 cubic feet per second (cfs) in September 2015 to achieve a discharge at the mouth of the Klamath River of about 5,000 cfs ([USBR News Release](#)).

We annually track spawning success rates (i.e., pre-spawn mortality versus partially or fully spawned) of female salmon throughout the Trinity River spawning survey season. We will continue to report pre-spawn mortality as information becomes available. As of 9/18, too few carcasses have been collected in the surveyed reaches. We will report this carcass data after at least 10 carcasses have been observed.

A Keyhole Markup Language file has been created to view redd distribution data with Google Earth.

[Trinity River Redds as of 09/18/2005](#)

(Last modified September 18, 2015)

If Google Earth fails to launch automatically, the file can be used by first saving it to your computer then launching the Google Earth application. Select the menu option **File, Open**, locate the downloaded file (“Redd_KML_2015_09_18.kml”); and click the **Open** button.

Note: Background imagery in Google Earth is sometimes not projected with perfect accuracy. Redd locations may appear to be mapped on dry ground in those cases when viewed with Google Earth, but they are indeed in the water! Likewise, the river has changed since the most recently available Google Earth imagery.

For more information regarding mainstem Trinity River redd surveys, please contact Steve Gough (707-825-5197; steve_gough@fws.gov) or Derek Rupert (570-419-2823; derek_rupert@fws.gov).